

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, the applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and are not rendered obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Accordingly, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. **If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues, or believes that some or all of the claims are not in condition for allowance, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned to schedule a telephone Examiner Interview before any further actions on the merits.**

The applicant will now address each of the issues raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Objections

Figures 1A-1D were also objected to as failing to include the legend "Prior Art." Since a proposed drawing correction and a sheet of corrected drawings, both addressing the objection, are filed herewith, this objection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 5 are objected to because of minor typographical errors. Since these claims have been amended based on the Examiner's helpful comments, this objection should be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 19-21, 26-28, 33 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,689,686 ("the Hashimoto patent"). Since these claims have been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 22 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Hashimoto patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,760,727 ("the Lin patent"). Since these claims have been canceled, this ground of rejection is rendered moot.

Objections to the Claims


Claims 23-25 and 30-32 were found to include allowable subject matter, but were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Since claim 23 has been rewritten in independent form to include the recitations of claim 22, it is now in allowable form. Since claims 24 and 25 depend from claim 23, these claims are also in allowable form. Since claim 30 has been rewritten in independent form to include the recitations of claim 29, it is now in allowable form. Since claims 31 and 32 (as amended) depend from claim 30, these claims are also in allowable form.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the applicant requests that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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John C. Pokotylo, Attorney
Reg. No. 36,242
Tel.: (732) 542-9070

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on **August 17, 2004** with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



John C. Pokotylo

36,242
Reg. No.